REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in conjunction with applicants' Request for Continued Prosecution filed on February 6, 2006, and also in response to the Examiner's request that applicant correct applicant's improper submission of February 15, 2006.

Applicants respectfully request that any fees, especially extension fees, due with this Amendment, be charged to our account no. 10-0100.

Responsive to the Final Rejection of November 4, 2005, and to the subsequent telephone conference with Examiner Linn, applicant has amended claims, canceled two claims and added new claims 12-14. Claim 12 is directed to a system for testing insertion loss in optical cables; claim 13 is directed to a method for testing insertion loss in such cables; and new claim 14 is for an optical connector for use with optical cables. All of the dependent claims that are still of record have been made dependent, either directed or indirectly, on new claim 14.

In a telephone conference with Examiner Lin, he agreed that claims for an optical connector system and the method for testing insertion loss that facilitates automated testing would be favorably considered.

The new claim 14 for the optical connector now specifies that the contactless reading / writing means on the optical plug and on the adaptor can transfer identifying data in the form of electrical signals from an electronic means, in the form of an internal integrated circuit, to a reading device when the optical plug associated with the predetermined cable is connected to the optical plug. Once each cable is, therefore, provided with a plug and suitable electronic means of the type suggested in Figs. 1A and 1B, including a memory element or component and an integrated circuit, the cable can be uniquely identified, and the system and method of the present invention can then be used to automate the testing of cables without manually scanning bar codes or the like, as in the prior art. Simple RFID components can be used that consist of radio-enabled devices that interrogate the optical plugs, labels or tags, which are embedded with single-chip processors and an antenna. As suggested, the subject system and method does not required line-of-sight or particular orientation of any of the components being measured. Thus, the testing can be

largely automated, which reduces the need for manual scanning, increases efficiency and decreases cost.

It is respectfully submitted that the new claims and the amended claims now clearly and patentably distinguish over the applied references. Early allowance and issuance is, accordingly, respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Applicant hereby petitions that any and all extensions of time of the term necessary to render this response timely be granted. Costs for such extensions and any other fees that may be due with this paper that are not fully covered by an enclosed check may be charged to our account no. 10-0100.